

FROM HAWAII

DEAR EDITOR: The August number of the JOURNAL reached me a few days ago and was much enjoyed. We learn to be very patient out here waiting for news from home. You asked about the life and work of nurses on the Sandwich Islands; it is most interesting from all standpoints.

Nurses generally locate in this city and are called to the other islands from here; they are kept very busy and are paid the same rate as on the mainland, twenty-five dollars per week.

There are four hospitals in the city, the Queens, one hundred beds, is the largest, graduate nurses are employed as floor nurses; the Sanitorium, a small private hospital; the Naval Hospital; and the Kapiolani Maternity Home. Both the Queen's Hospital and the Maternity Home have government grants, pay patients, and free wards to Hawaiians. The Maternity Home is supervised by an American trained nurse, but the general nursing is done by Hawaiian women, trained in the home. The city supports a district nurse, who visits the schools twice a week, and finds her work most interesting. There is no association of nurses and no guild. Miss Johnson keeps a register at the Sanitorium and the doctors keep lists in their offices. The quarantine work is very interesting; the lepers are sent to the retention settlement on this island, and at certain periods are taken to Molaikai, the leper island. These people are allowed to marry and their offspring are sent back to Oahu and are taken care of by the Sisters of Charity.

The country is very beautiful, and the hospitality of the people is simply wonderful. Trained nurses have evidently maintained a high standard here, for we hear the kindest criticism and highest praise of those who have gone before.

EDITH M. HODGINS,
Honolulu.

AN EXPLANATION

DEAR EDITOR: In justice to the many New Jersey nurses who protested against the enactment of the Amended Registration Bill at the last session of the legislature, I wish to correct the impression given by an editorial in the June number of the JOURNAL as to their reason for taking this action. Sections of the amended bill had been discussed at the annual state meeting held in Elizabeth in December, but at that time the bill was so far from complete it was impossible to judge of its

final expression. Owing to the facts that the attendance at state meetings is of necessity small, that New Jersey has no medium of communication in the way of paper or county associations, and that the state constitution does not provide for the representation of *alumnæ* associations, the number of nurses cognizant of the business transacted at these meetings is very limited. An appeal for funds to meet the expenses of legislation was the first intimation that many nurses had of the bill's completed state. No copies had been sent out nor its contents in any way made public, so superintendents of hospitals and training schools and nurses engaged in private work were alike ignorant as to the standards being made for them. The Orange *Alumnæ* Association called a special meeting for the purpose of finding out through proper channels, the requirements embodied in the amended bill, and also to request that legislation on the same be deferred until all nurses in the state should have the same privilege. When this request, courteously made, was met with definite refusal, the protest was sent to Trenton, the same reason for it being given. In no instance that I know of, was the three years' course made an objection. The nurses who signed this protest are among those who have the best interests of their profession at heart, who desire the best possible bill for their state, and who believe that the way to obtain it is to be found in following the methods so admirably outlined in the *JOURNAL* for March.

NEW JERSEY.

